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The Aluminum Situation

Department of Economics and Statistics **November 1984**

Nine Month Shipments Up 13.0 Percent

Net shipments for nine months of 1984, at an estimated 12,167 million pounds, were 13.0 percent higher than the 10,769 million pounds for 1983's first nine months.

Domestic shipments of 11,366 million pounds were 15.2 percent higher than the 9,864 million pounds shipped in 1983's first nine months.

Nine-month Imports were up 36.6 percent but exports declined 11.5 percent.

Thru September 1984

	9 mos. 1984	9 mos. 1983	% Change
Mill Products	9,196	8,277	+11.1
Ingot	2,971	2,492	+19.2
Total	12,167	10,769	+13.0
Less Exports	(801)	(905)	-11.5
Domestic Total	11,366	9,864	+15.2

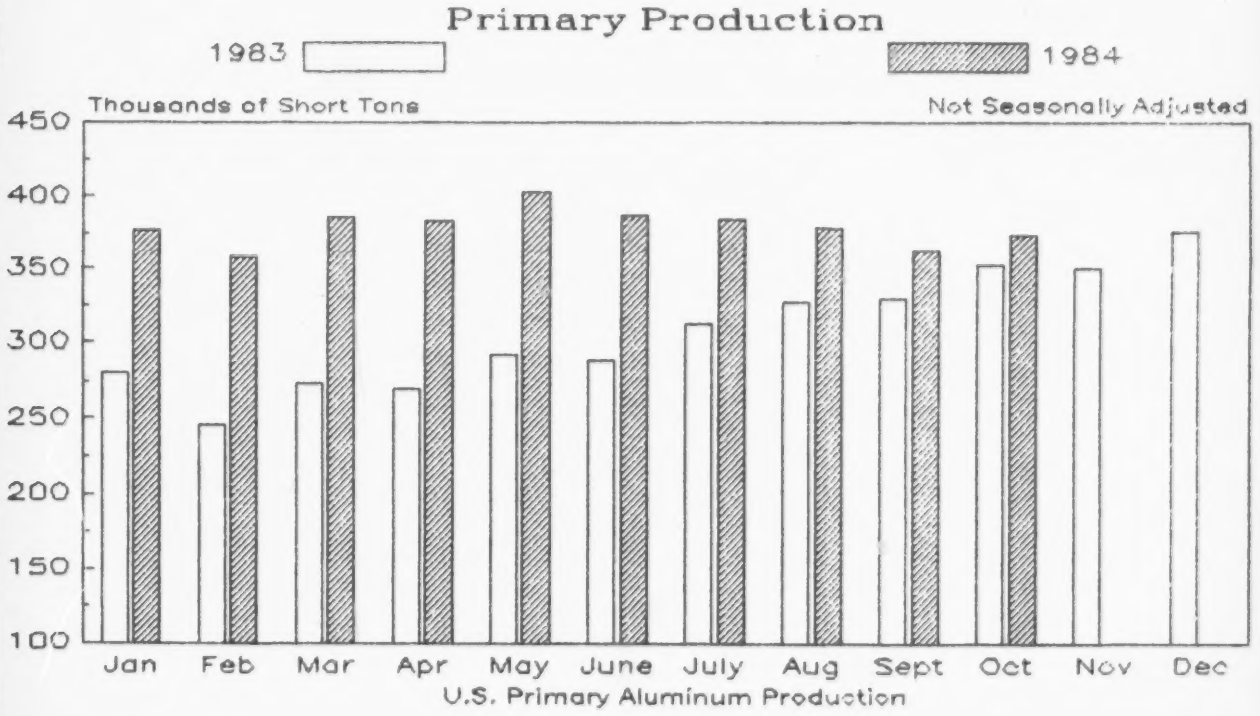
Millions of pounds
Source: Latest two months estimated by the Aluminum Association. Previous data-Bureau of the Census.

Production Rate Up 5.8 Percent

U.S. primary aluminum production averaged 12,033 short tons daily during October 1984 compared with an average 11,378 tons a day in October 1983.

The annual rate of production in October 1984 was 4,403,907 tons, compared to 4,153,141 tons in October 1983. September 1984 production rate was 4,426,221 tons.

Actual production in October 1984 was 373,009 tons.



Aluminum Association total industry estimates are based on information reported by members, which is aggregated by the Association and then expanded to total industry data utilizing an expansion ratio that attempts to reflect the relationship of reporters to the total industry. While the Association believes that its statistical procedures and methods are reliable, it does not warrant the accuracy or completeness of the data. All data contained herein are subject to revision.

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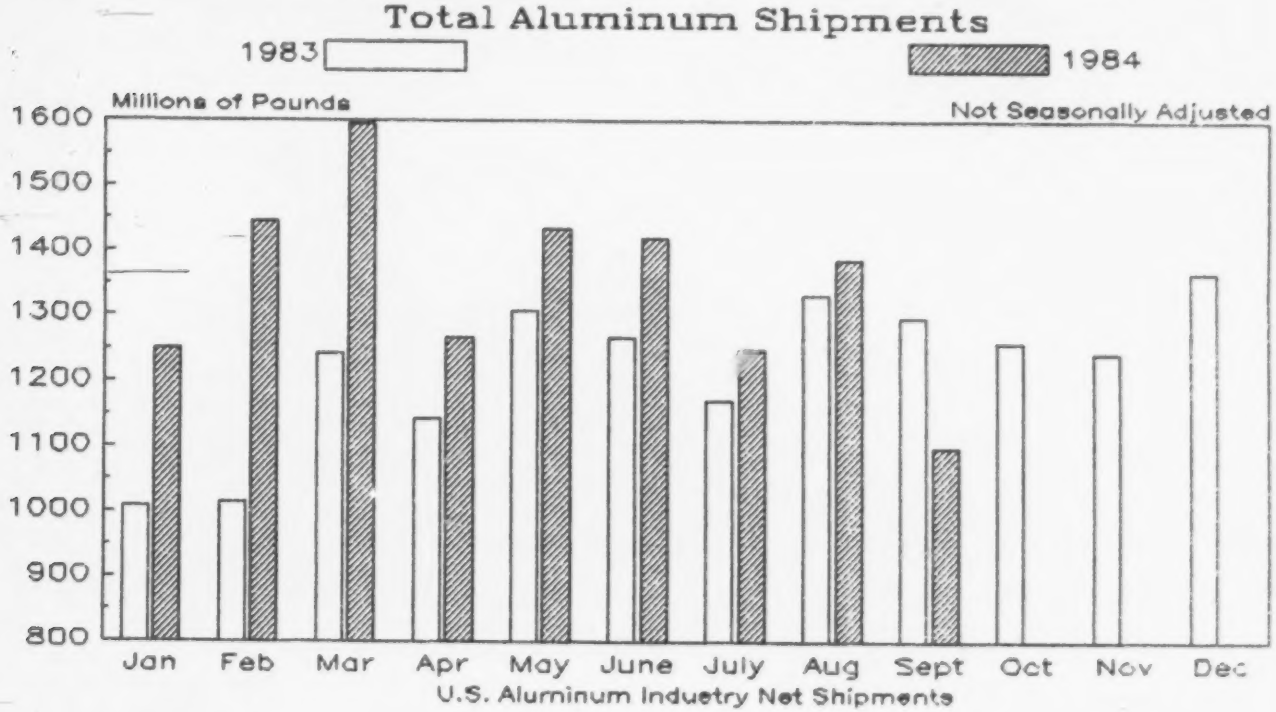
September 1984 Shipments 12.9 Percent Below Year Ago

September 1984 net shipments at an estimated 1,127 million pounds were 12.9 percent below September 1983 shipments. Shipments for nine months of 1984, however, were 13.0 percent over the same 1983 period.



Net Shipments

(Millions of Pounds)

	1984 Sep.*	1983 Sep.	1984 9 mos.*	1983 9 mos.	% Change YTD 1984 vs. 1983
Sheet	431.0	501.0	4,739.2	4,561.9	+ 3.9
Plate	20.0	16.2	192.4	151.2	+27.2
Foil	67.0	70.0	640.5	612.9	+ 4.5
Rod, Bar & Wire	24.0	17.0	232.4	176.2	+31.9
Electrical Conductor	61.0	56.7	537.0	521.1	+ 3.1
Extruded Products	220.0	201.1	1,937.7	1,682.9	+15.1
Welded Tube	4.0	3.9	49.4	39.9	+23.8
Powder & Paste	7.0	7.8	71.6	62.0	+15.5
Forgings & Impacts	12.0	9.8	110.8	84.1	+31.7
Net Imports of Mill Products (Total) (a)	65.0	38.4	684.9	384.3	+78.2
Total Mill Products	911.0	921.9	9,195.9	8,276.5	+11.1
Ingot (b)	216.0	372.2	2,971.6	2,492.3	+19.2
TOTAL INDUSTRY SHIPMENTS	1,127.0	1,294.1	12,167.5	10,768.8	+13.0
Exports	(90.4)	(127.8)	(801.1)	(904.8)	-11.5
TOTAL DOMESTIC SHIPMENTS	1,036.6	1,166.3	11,366.4	9,864.0	+15.2

*Latest two months estimated by the Aluminum Association.
Previous data-Bureau of the Census and Department of Commerce.
(a) Not included in product data above.
(b) Sufficient data not available for reliable estimate. Implicit in this item is a 10 to 25% variation.
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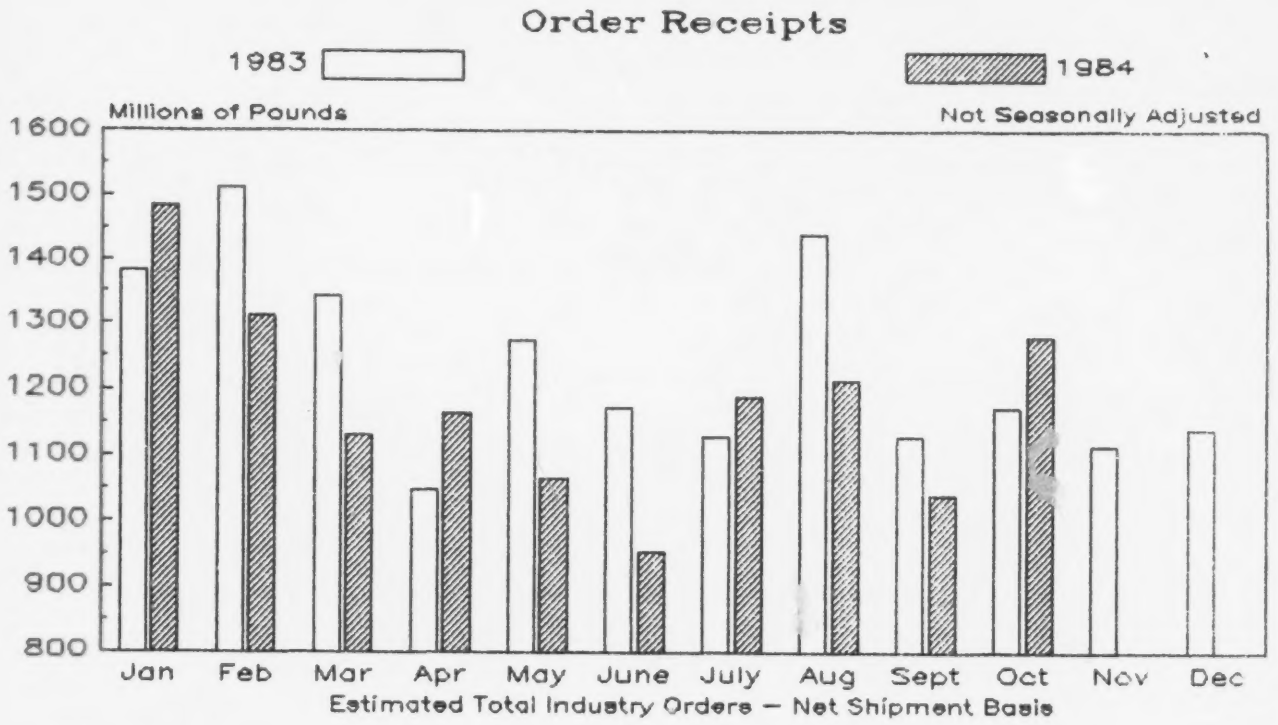
October 1984 Order Receipts 22.8 Percent Higher Than September

Estimated net new order receipts for October 1984 of 1,277 million pounds were 22.8 percent higher than the September total of 1,039 million pounds. For the ten months of 1984 there was a 6.2 percent decline from the similar 1983 period, however.



Order Receipts

(Millions of Pounds)

	1984* Oct.	1983 Oct.	1984 10 months	1983 10 months	% Change YTD 1984 vs. 1983
Can Stock(a)	196.0	237.4	2,531.2	2,640.6	- 4.1
Sheet & Plate, Other	296.1	312.1	2,720.0	3,562.0	-23.6
Foil	69.8	87.6	674.9	731.9	- 7.8
Rod, Bar & Wire	18.3	21.8	226.7	197.4	+14.8
Electrical Conductor	59.9	71.6	624.3	588.3	+ 6.1
Extruded Products	248.3	205.1	1,946.5	1,917.0	+ 1.5
Powder & Paste	7.2	6.1	92.5	81.1	+14.1
Forgings & Impacts	13.6	6.9	113.3	67.0	+69.1
Domestic Mill Products	909.2	948.6	8,929.4	9,785.3	- 8.7
Ingot (Total)	292.9	106.0	2,120.3	1,914.9	+10.7
TOTAL DOMESTIC	1,202.1	1,054.6	11,049.7	11,700.2	- 5.6
Exports	74.6	116.2	767.7	894.8	-14.2
TOTAL ALL PRODUCTS	1,276.7	1,170.8	11,817.4	12,595.0	- 6.2

Source: The Association estimates total industry orders, based on weekly reports by members of new orders (less cancellations) received. The Association expands these data to total industry utilizing an expansion ratio that attempts to reflect the relationship of reporters to the total industry. Weekly data are available upon request.
(a) Import orders included in Sheet and Plate, Other.
*Latest month.
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Inventories Increased in September 1984 By 41 Million Pounds

Producer inventories increased an estimated 41 million pounds in September 1984 from August 1984. Integrated producers' stocks went up 40 million pounds and smelters' were up 1 million pounds.

Month-End Aluminum Inventories
By Type of Producer
Figures in Millions of Pounds

Month	Total*	Integrated	Smelters	Non-Integrated
Dec 80	5,076	4,018	261	797
Dec 81	6,607	5,542	266	798
Dec 82	6,180	5,224	216	740
Sep 83	5,236	4,209	202	826
Oct 83	5,273	4,260	198	815
Nov 83	5,191	4,140	193	858
Dec 83	4,994	3,979	163	853
Jan 84	5,176	4,081	206	889
Feb 84	5,229	4,116	209	904
Mar 84	5,305	4,167	214	923
Apr 84	5,435	4,289	218	928
May 84	5,579	4,417	233	928
Jun 84	5,618	4,474	240	904
Jul 84	5,775r	4,622	234r	919r
Aug 84	5,774r	4,640r	225r	910r
Sep 84	5,815	4,680	225	910

*Latest two months estimated by Aluminum Association. Previous data-Bureau of the Census. Inventories include ingot, mill products and scrap.
Early estimates are available approximately the 5th working day each month; however, there is a charge for this special service. Contact the Aluminum Association Department of Economics and Statistics for details.

Imports and Exports

(Millions of Pounds)

		1984 Sep.	1983 Sep.	1984 9 mos.	1983 9 mos.	% Change 1984 v. 1983
Imports	Mill Products	88.5	48.5	848.2	443.5	+91.3
	Ingot	175.3	124.6	1,506.9	1,280.8	+17.7
	Total	263.8	173.1	2,355.1	1,724.3	+36.6
	Scrap (+ dross)	35.3	21.5	245.9	136.1	+80.7
	Grand Total	299.1	194.6	2,601.0	1,860.4	+39.8
Exports	Mill Products	42.5	36.1	394.8	335.1	+17.8
	Ingot	47.9	91.7	406.2	569.7	-28.7
	Total	90.4	127.8	801.0	904.8	-11.5
	Scrap	56.4	50.4	355.0	400.5	-11.4
	Grand Total	146.8	178.2	1,156.0	1,305.3	-11.4
Net Imports		152.3	16.4	1,445.0	555.1	

Source: Department of Commerce, Industry Trade Administration and Bureau of the Census. Excludes backed foil.